Monitoring agency for NGOs

1396. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Government or Voluntary agency to monitor and supervise hundreds of schemes being undertaken by various NGOs; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) There is no single nodal agency which monitors and supervises the schemes being undertaken by the various NGOs.

However, the various concerned Ministries and Departments both at the Centre and at the State level have their own systems of monitoring and supervision of the Schemes/Projects being implemented through the NGOs.

People living below poverty line

1397. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of country's population which was living below the poverty line during 1995-96;

(b) the figures for the preceding three years;

(c) the percentage of population living in "Kucha" houses and Jhuggies;

(d) the average per capita annual income of people living below poverty line during the same period; and

(e) the steps being taken to ameliorate the condition of the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty using the quinquennial National Sample Survey (NSS) data on Consumer Expenditure. The latest estimates of poverty are available for the year 1993-94 based on the NSS Consumer Expenditure Survey of 50th Round. The incidence of poverty in 1993-94 is estimated as 16.82 per cent following the methodology of Task force on Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand, and 36.31 per cent following the methodology of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor.

(c) The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) has collected data on the number of households living in kucha houses ie. the houses which have wall and roof made of non-pucca materials such as mud, bamboo, grass, leaves, reeds, thatch or unburnt bricks in its 44th round (July 1988/June 1989), 48th round (January-December, 1992) and 50th round (July 1993-June 1994). However, the results of the 50th round has not been released. The available information on percentage of dwelling units (households) with kucha structure houses as available from NSS 44th round and 48th round is as under:

Rounds	% of dwelling units with kucha structure	
	Rural	Urban
44 (1988-89)	39.35	10.92
48 (1992)	38.00	10.00

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(e) There is a three-pronged attack on poverty, i.e. (i) acceleration of economic growth, (ii) human and social development through literacy, education, health, nutrition, meeting the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker sections of the society, etc., and (iii) direct attack on poverty through